

# News and Tendencies in Society

## Metropolitan's Parterre Row Still Sways Social Life

Rising Generation Takes Up Inherited Responsibilities at the Opera—Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Astor Wilks Among Few Newcomers in Diamond Horseshoe.

SOCIETY has before it a season that gives assurance of being built upon a large scale. Its collective start, forming the foundation, holds out that promise. An early confluence of social influence has already given the preface a unique distinction that previous winters lacked since society began to face a forced reorganization following the armistice.

There is, this early, a discernible conservatism from which New York society promises to emerge somewhat centralized, if present ideals are to be realized. Abridgment is necessary in some directions. In one direction that has to do with the rising generation there may be some paring, with subsequent subdivision, one of the natural results of abridgment and concentration. Early November promises to tell that particular story.

The cooperative party, the natural result of several modern social influences, is to be exploited in one new direction at least. There is to be much personal expression, some of it on a generous scale, during the coming season that is, as usual, to receive its full impetus on November 13 with the premiere at the Metropolitan Opera House.

This cooperative exploitation of social inclination will, if present seriously considered plans are carried out, bring into being a new sort of club. Those who are in touch with the social undercurrent are absorbing the contagious spirit of new energy that promises to place the coming winter season in society upon a new fashionable plane.

In spite of change in personnel and the advent of a new generation, the parterre row of the Metropolitan Opera House has lost none of the influence as a fashionable haven it inherited some forty years ago from the historic box rows of the Academy of Music. There are some persons, chiefly men, who graduated from the fashionable school of the Academy to the Metropolitan, and still maintain old standards. They will pass their dogmas of social culture and fashionable individuality to younger men and women who are ready to assume the responsibilities of their order.

### Only Two Possible Places for Sale.

The best description of the present moods of the persons who own the parterre boxes and of those who want to use those boxes is in two statements of fact.

There are among the fifty-three persons who own the thirty-five boxes in the parterre row only two who have the least inclination to part with their holdings, and they are not at the present time considering any of the offers that are said to have been made them for their interests, notwithstanding the fact that the value of a parterre box is at the present time very little under the highest prewar price.

And if the fortunate persons who qualify as parterrettes, and who are anxious to watch all the Monday night performances from that vantage point, do not take up their options promptly they will be obliged to be satisfied with odds and ends of Monday nights or with performances on other and less popular nights.

The owners are not selling and the eligible public is increasing in numbers. That situation in itself tells an eloquent story of society.

Monday night performances will, as usual, be the most popular socially. Friday nights will have second place, while the Wednesday and Thursday night performances are about neck and neck for third place, with Thursday a little the favorite. Matinees are in a class by themselves, but will receive more social attention this year than in the past.

These new owners of social modes are not necessarily directors of the companies that own and operate the Metropolitan Opera House, although many of them are stockholders; but they are very much alive to the necessity of maintaining inherited social doctrines. The sincere interest that has prompted one such man, whose very name stands for local history and the fashionable mold, to keep a complete record of grand opera since the Metropolitan grew out of the Academy of Music, along with one of the most valuable collections of programs in existence, is bound to have its influence over the new generation destined to inherit such a trust.

So society still must regard the thirty-five boxes of the parterre row as its source of modish inspiration. Men and women still are being made or unmade socially there.

### Change of Ownership by Inheritance.

In recent years there have been several changes in the ownership of boxes through inheritance, but inheritance with expanding family ties does not make more parterre boxes. There has been a larger family demand for operative division and its social possibilities, with the result of a tightening of family interest in the boxes.

Boxes in the grand tier row and seats in all parts of the opera house are for public sale. One can only obtain a parterre box through personal association, and the parterre row is one of the most close constructionist clubs in New York. Like such things, the parterre row is not inexpensive. If one is fortunate one may get a parterre row box for all the Monday night performances for a sum close to \$3,000 with tax. One must pay \$650 for the premiere and \$550 for other Mondays. One may entertain in a parterre box on other nights at an average price of \$165, with a few dollars less for matinees.

Who are to be among the newcomers in the parterre row this year? The stockholders are not sure yet, but Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Astor Wilks, standing for the old and the new of society, will be among them. Mrs. Wilks is the daughter of the late Mrs. Henry Walters.

It is possible that old friends of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Walters may welcome them back. It is their intention to pass most of the winter in New York. As Mrs. Pembroke Jones, Mrs. Walters was for many seasons a popular hostess in box 23. Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Field, who now are as much of New York as Chicago, will be there, probably in the Astor box. Then there will be Mr. and Mrs. Edward Dudley Kenna, who passed the summer in Hertfordshire, England, and soon will be back in their eighty-ninth street house. A couple who has made impression upon the great world of London may be there, and there may also be a widow who recently came into a large fortune.

### To Be Seen in the Famous Horseshoe.

Mr. Ogden Mills will use his box more freely this season than in the recent past, with Lord and Lady Granard as his guests for the first half of the winter at least. Mrs. Whitelaw Reid will entertain in box 20, and Mrs. W. George Cavendish-Bentley, who came over with the Granards and who is the physical duplicate of her twin sister, the late Mrs. Mills, will be welcomed there. Mrs. Ogden Goelet is expected to return to use No. 1 for most of the season.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Walton Goelet have informed their friends here they will be back in January with their small daughter. They had hoped for a boy, who would have been Robert Walton Goelet, Jr. Mr. E. Francis Hyde, who has had No. 32 for more than twenty-five years, and Mrs. Clarence M. Hyde, his relative, who has had No. 4 for almost as many seasons of grand opera, are among parterre fixtures. Others are Mrs. Luther Kuntze, whose increasing family circle will join her in No. 32; Mrs. Hamilton McK. Twombly; Mr. and Mrs. Henry White, who will divide their time between New York and Washington; and Mrs. V. Henry Harriman, who will, as usual, share her No. 9 with Mr. Charles T. Matthews.

Mrs. Joseph Pulitzer is coming back to the parterre row. Mrs. Vanderbilt will be in her place, with the Hungarian Minister and Countess Lexell Serchevich frequently with her. There will be more of the diplomatic circle than usual. It is expected that Lord and Lady Mountbatten will be in New York as guests of Mr. Gen. and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt for the early part of the season, as they do not have to be back in London until Christmas. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis L. Clarke, who have been parterre patrons several seasons, will have No. 19, the "Crown" or "Wagon" box.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert L. Post will be absent. They cannot go to Europe early in November and to be abroad for a lengthy period. Mrs. John J. Weagel had her plans for the opera season made, but now she is in mourning for her father, and Mrs. Henry B. Hyde who was a matinee patroness for many years, has moved away. There will be few other changes from last season in the parterre row.

### Changes in the Parterre Personnel.

Changes in the personnel of the parterre row that will be noticed as the season advances will be those of the nature of those that will be brought about by Mr. C. C. C. and his large and competent force of technical experts in the management. Basically the standard will remain unchanged, but there will be a little difference in the social embryonic work.

As no persons have been boxes in the "diamond horseshoe" for all the 128 performances of the season, the season, as compared with previous years, has been a new one for all concerned. As many among the eligible have avoided that perilous wilderness for the half season only, the social cast for the first eleven weeks at Broadway and Fortieth street will be a little different from that of the last twelve.

Some among the leaders have arranged to pass the first half of the winter that devoted to keeping up with the debutantes. In the city, and then go abroad or to Florida with the young feminine generation. Diversity of experience alone established here is essential to character making in the bringing out and up of debutantes. Two months of one month, thing does not make for versatility. But in society's side of grand opera, as in the technical side there will be throughout the twenty-three weeks a rigidly maintained uniformity of inflexion.

As usual the matinees will form social functions totally different from the evening performances. Some matinees, mostly among the more recently married, are struggling to avoid their nightly imprisonment in "carter" boxes. One may not be named during intermission at evening performances. The parterre box at night is still to the woman of society as is her drawing room—a place to which to receive. Men alone are expected to circulate and present their compliments to the hostesses of the night. That also is true of London.

The matinees are totally free from such formality. Only the older matrons remain in their places of honor as hostesses in the boxes. Among the other matrons of the matinee box parties interchange of box calls is so generally the rule that the parterre corridor during matinee intermissions becomes the merriest, noisiest place of a day in society—just the opposite of grand masculine dominance at night.

All this, of course, in true style of the parterre. The grand tier row of boxes is an entirely different social world, ruled by unwritten laws less rigid.

## Exhibitors and Spectators at Suburban Horse and Dog Shows and a Visitor at Hot Springs



Left to Right:  
The MISSES  
CORNELIA ELY, MARY  
STRANGE and ISABEL  
ROCKEFELLER in the  
GALLERY at the PIPING ROCK HORSE SHOW

MRS.  
JOSEPH  
GOULD REMICK, Formerly  
MISS ELEANOR FRANKCE, of  
NEW YORK, at HOT SPRINGS

## Informal Activity Presages a Busy Season for Society

SOCIETY is flocking back to town, and throughout the fashionable residential sections the storm doors and shutters are coming down, announcing that New York's preliminary season has begun. True, many of the fashionable folk will linger until after Thanksgiving, some even later, in their homes on Long Island, along the Hudson and in the Jersey hills as well as the Berkshires, and trips will be made to the mountains in Virginia, but the call of school and college has hastened the homecoming of many and presages much gaiety of an informal nature between now and the opening of the opera, when the regular social season always begins.

Mr. and Mrs. John Nelson Cole, who have been at East Hampton, L. I., since returning from Europe in August, have recently returned to town, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. B. Page have closed their summer home at Glen Cove, L. I., and returned to their apartment, 300 Park avenue, for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Gustave J. S. White have closed their Newport villa and returned to New York. They have taken an apartment at the Hotel Vanderbilt for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. B. Page have closed their summer home at Glen Cove, L. I., and returned to their apartment, 300 Park avenue, for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Reid Langdon Carr have returned from Huntington, L. I., to their town residence, 24 East Sixty-seventh street.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Daniel Orth and the latter's daughter, Miss Kathryn Knight, have returned to their home, 68 East Fifty-fourth street, from Europe, where they spent the summer. Miss Knight will be one of the season's debutantes.

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Hamilton, who recently returned to town, will be at the Hotel Vanderbilt for a few days before opening their house at 130 East Thirty-sixth street.

Mrs. J. Francis A. Clark, accompanied by her children, sailed for Europe yesterday. She will spend the greater part of the winter in France.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald O. MacRae will be located this winter at 1075 Park avenue, where they have just taken an apartment. They formerly resided at 29 East Eighty-third street.

Mr. and Mrs. Forsyth Wickes and their daughter, the Misses Wickes, who are spending the late autumn at their Tuxedo villa, will return to their town residence early in November.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond F. Almiral have taken possession of their new apartment, 108 East Fifty-second street. They formerly resided at 12 East Forty-sixth street.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hudson Hall and their son, Mr. John H. Hall, Jr., have returned from New Canaan, Conn., where they spent the summer, to 43 West Fifty-seventh street.

Mr. and Mrs. Laurent Oppenheim have returned to town and as usual will be at the Hotel Plaza for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Martin Polhemus, who have been occupying the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Stillman, 33 East Thirty-ninth street since returning from their wedding trip to Bermuda, have taken possession of their apartment, 85 East Eighty-seventh street. Mr. and Mrs. Stillman and family have returned to their town residence from Southampton, where they spent the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gould Remick, who are spending their honeymoon at Hot Springs, on their return will reside at 130 East Sixty-sixth street. Mrs.

pin. She is a great-granddaughter of the American portrait painter, Daniel Huntington and a descendant of Washington Irving.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Guyot Dana, who have been abroad all summer, spending

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Olcott, of 29 East Seventy-ninth street, where the wedding took place on Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Baldwin Forman, who were married on Wednesday in the Cathedral of the Incarnation at Garden City, will make their home in Water-town, Conn., when they return from their wedding trip. Mrs. Forman was Miss Helaine Platt Peters, daughter of Mr. Ralph Peters, president of the Long Island Railroad, and Mrs. Peters, of Garden City.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Eder and their three daughters, who recently returned from a summer in Europe, have taken apartments at the Hotel Belvedere for the winter.

Mrs. George Quackenbush also returned from her home in Old Bennington, Vt., and opened her apartment at 63 Park avenue. Her daughter Miss Virginia Quackenbush will be one of the winter's debutantes.

Mrs. Charles Frederick Zabriske and her daughter, Miss Anita Zabriske, will return to their home at 100 West Fifth street, from Cooperstown, N. Y., the latter part of this month.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney M. Colgate and family, who have been at their country home in Orange, N. J., since returning from their camp on Upper Saranac Lake, are now settled for the winter in their apartment on Park avenue.

Mr. George Blumenthal of 16 East Seventeenth street has returned from Europe. Mr. Blumenthal, who is at present in France, intends spending the winter in Egypt.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Morgenthau, Jr., are being congratulated upon the birth of a daughter on Monday. The child, who has been named Joan Morgenthau, is a granddaughter of Mr. Henry Morgenthau, former Ambassador to Turkey.

A carnival embroidered with the usual dancing has been arranged by America's Making at the Hotel Astor for the evening of October 20. Several hundred men and women, representing thirty-six racial groups, are expected, and many will wear the costumes of their native lands. Admission will be by invitation.

This carnival is to be marked by costumes elaborate in design and rich in colors. Three floors and all the restaurants of the hotel have been reserved. Music will be by four orchestras and a key band.

There will be dancing in all the ball rooms, interspersed with entertainment features under the direction of Miss Elizabeth Buchanan. For the occasion, George de Marseul has composed an "America's Making Overture," which is a blending of the national airs of many lands.

With Dr. John H. Finley as honorary president, the committee in charge is headed by Mrs. William Taylor, with Dr. Johannes Hoving chairman of the social section. Mr. William Mayer, chairman of the Hungarian section, Mr. Gustav Neumann of the Lithuanian section and Miss Matilda Spencer, former director of America's Making exposition.

America's Making is a society composed of the racial and national elements that have contributed to the upbuilding of this country, and has for its main object the promotion of good citizenship by exemplifying the spirit of toleration. It was organized under the presidency of the late Franklin K. Lane, Dr. Finley is its president. As one means for further welding the groups and for obtaining the nucleus of a fund with which to open a permanent headquarters and a permanent exhibit, it has been decided to give this carnival and dance.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Thayer Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Stowe Phelps, Mrs. Francis L. Wellman and Mrs. Richard Prentiss Wormald were among those who entertained parties at the tea dance in the grill room of the Hotel Lorraine last Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hayden B. Harris will spend the greater part of the winter in Havana, Cuba. They have just leased the Louis de Milhau house, 1022 Park avenue, for a term of years.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Mulqueen have returned to New York and are occupying their apartment at the Hotel Vanderbilt.

Mr. Jean de Pendrill Waddington, C. G. M. O. of the French Croix-aux-Blancs, and his bride, will sail to-morrow for the France and intend to go to India for the first part of their honeymoon. Mrs. Waddington was Miss Gladys Olcott.

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The third annual ball of the First Division, Lieut. Jeff Feigl Post No. 247, American Legion, is to be held November 19 at the Hotel Astor. The committee in charge includes Col. W. E. Shepherd, chairman, Capt. George E. Boyd, Lieut. James A. Edgar, Mr. John L. Ames, Lieut. Robert L. Dixon, Capt. A. K. A. Harwood, Lieut. Stephen J. McTigue, Sergeant Michael J. Quinn, Capt. Bartow H. Hall, Col. Ernest K. Leiser and Lieut. L. G. Hamersley.

The proceeds will go into the relief fund for the wounded and sick veterans of the division and for the maintenance of an employment bureau. Mrs. Sarah E. Lowe, who served with the committee last year, again is cooperating with the veterans.

## Autumn Weddings Continue to Have Social Interest

Baroness Olga Sonia Serdobin and Miss Dunlop Among Week's Brides.

TWO interesting weddings are announced for this week, those of the Baroness Olga Sonia Serdobin and Miss A. Margaret Dunlop, both of whom have just completed the list of their attendants. The Baroness Serdobin is the daughter of the late Baron Paul Michael Serdobin of Russia, who made his home in New York for a number of years, and the Baroness Serdobin, of 262 West Eighty-third street, who was Miss Marie Estelle Williams of Staten Island. She will be married on Saturday afternoon in St. Thomas's Church to Mr. Samuel Cowan Disbrow, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Grinnell Disbrow of this city.

The ceremony, which will be at 4 o'clock, will be performed by the rector, the Rev. Dr. Ernest M. Stires. It will be followed by a small reception at the home of her mother. The bride, who will be given away by her uncle, Mr. Lawrence Williams, will have Mrs. Russell MacGregor, who before her marriage on September 30 was Mrs. Margaret A. Jones, widow of Philip Hone Le Roy Jones, widow of Henry Heller, Chandler Bates, W. H. Lammatt Pell, John Meyerkott, Jr., Carlton James and Louis Edgingham de Forest.

Mr. Disbrow, who during the war was in the officers' training school at Camp Johnston, Fla., and was formerly a member of Squadron A and Company K, Seventh Regiment, will have his brother, Mr. Frank Disbrow, for his best man. His ushers will be the Messrs. Henry Heller, Chandler Bates, W. H. Lammatt Pell, John Meyerkott, Jr., Carlton James and Louis Edgingham de Forest.

Mr. Disbrow and his bride will spend their honeymoon in the South.

Miss A. Margaret Dunlop, who is a daughter of Mrs. Archibald M. McCrea, will become the bride of Mr. William Steele Gray, Jr., on Thursday afternoon in St. Thomas's Church. The ceremony will be performed by the rector, the Rev. Dr. Ernest M. Stires, and will be followed by a reception at the Hotel Plaza. Mr. Steele Gray will give his step-daughter away, and her chief attendant will be her sister, Mrs. John L. Walsh of Philadelphia, whose marriage took place a year ago. The bridesmaids will be the Misses Mary Mercer Dunlop, another sister; Margaret Harding of Washington, D. C.; Elizabeth Scott, Eleanor Parrish and Mary D. Taylor of Richmond, Va., and Helen Halsey of South Orange, N. J.

Mr. Albert Gould Jennings, Jr., will be best man, and serving as ushers will be the Messrs. Leonard Beach, Alexander B. Carver, Basil E. Ebbels, Ernest M. Stires, Jr., and Sylvanus J. Leary of this city, John M. Heffron of Greenwich, Conn.; Howard C. Cox of New York, and Frank B. Christman of Boston and John Wintersteen of Philadelphia. Many guests from Washington, Richmond and Philadelphia will attend the wedding.

Miss Dunlop's father was the late David Dunlop of Petersburg, Va.

Miss Marion Josephine McCall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ballard McCall of Orange, N. J., will be one of the early December brides. Her marriage to Mr. C. M. Converse, son of Mrs. A. Solomon Converse, will take place on November 15 at Garden City. Miss McCall is a daughter of the late Mr. School at Tarrytown, is a granddaughter of the late John A. McCall, president of the New York Life Insurance Company.

Mr. Converse, who was educated abroad, is a grandson of the late E. C. Converse, banker. He has lately entered business in New York.

Miss Katharine Biggs, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Hermann M. Biggs of 39 West Fifty-sixth street, will be one of the early December brides. Her marriage to Mr. C. M. Converse, son of Mrs. A. Solomon Converse, will take place on November 15 at Garden City. Miss Biggs is a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward N. McKimney, who will take place on December 9 in the Brick Presbyterian Church. A reception will follow at the Colony Club. Miss Biggs, who has been a member of the school, is a graduate of Miss Spencer's School and is a member of the Junior League. Her father is a member of the faculty and council of New York University, and of the directors of the Rockefeller Institute. Mr. McKimney was graduated from Harvard in 1915.

The marriage of Miss Mary A. Dickson to Mr. William Malcolm Mather of this city will take place in January. Their engagement was announced a few days ago at a dinner given by Miss Dickson at the Hotel Plaza. Miss Dickson is a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Benjamin Dickson of Morristown, N. J., and New York. She is a sister of Mr. Thomas Dickson and of Mrs. Thomas S. Watson and was educated at the Spence School. Mr. Mather, who is a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. James Wylie Mather of New York, was graduated from Princeton in 1915, returning to that university to finish his course after he had served in the navy as an Ensign during the war.

Announcement was made last week by Mr. and Mrs. William Mather of the engagement of their daughter, Miss Sarah E. Larkin, to Mr. Albert Palmer Loening, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Loening. Miss Larkin, who made her debut several years ago, is a sister of Mr. James S. Larkin, who married Miss Vera A. H. Cravath, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul D. Cravath, and of Mr. Lawrence Larkin. She attended the Chapin School and is a member of the Junior League, being one of its active workers. She went abroad last year with the American Committee for Decentralization of France and has worked in New York Hospitals.

Mr. Loening has been identified with aviation since the United States entered the war. At that time he was on the Mexican border as a Sergeant Major with the Seventh Regiment. He was transferred to the Air Service and served in the A. E. F. as Major.

## Morristown Musical Aids Its Neighborhood House

Harold Land, baritone, who has appeared throughout America in musical festivals, oratorios and recitals, was heard in a program ranging from the Handel period and the early French school down to modern American and English ballads at the residence of Mrs. Benjamin Nicoll in Morristown, N. J., the afternoon of October 8 before a large and fashionable audience. The baritone, who is soloist of St. Thomas's Church in New York, was in his best voice. He was assisted by two other talented artists, Miss Elsie Stevenson, violinist, and Miss Frances Shafer, soprano.

The entertainment was given in support of the Neighborhood House of Morristown, all contributing their services free.

## Feigl Legion Post Annual Ball Nov. 10

The third annual ball of the First Division, Lieut. Jeff Feigl Post No. 247, American Legion, is to be held November 19 at the Hotel Astor. The committee in charge includes Col. W. E. Shepherd, chairman, Capt. George E. Boyd, Lieut. James A. Edgar, Mr. John L. Ames, Lieut. Robert L. Dixon, Capt. A. K. A. Harwood, Lieut. Stephen J. McTigue, Sergeant Michael J. Quinn, Capt. Bartow H. Hall, Col. Ernest K. Leiser and Lieut. L. G. Hamersley.

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